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Date: December 11, 2003

**NAME/ADDRESS:** Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
**ATTN: Examiner N. M. Nutter**  
Art Unit 1711  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**FROM:** Margaret A. Connor *Margaret Connor*  
Attorney of Record

**SUBJECT:** **STATUS INQUIRY**  
**APPLICATION NO. 09/828,634**  
**Applicant: Francis S. Nakayama et al.**  
**FILED: 04/05/2001**  
**Docket No.: 0217.97R**  
**Customer No.: 25278**

Please deliver the attached documents to Examiner Nathan M. Nutter.

**TOTAL # OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS SHEET:** 34

### CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

1. Facsimile Cover Sheet (1 page)
2. Status Inquiry (1 page)
3. Copy of Postcard showing PTO Receipt of Amendment and Supporting Documents filed 6/30/03 (1 page)
4. Copy of Amendment and Supporting Documents filed by deposit in Express Mail 6/30/03, which includes: Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. 1.115; Nakayama et al., *Abstr. Assoc. Advance. Ind. Crops*, page 35 (1996); Schloman et al., in *Bioresource Technology* 35: 191-196 (1991); Page 10-16 USDA Forest Service Agricultural Handbook: Wood-based Composites and Panel Products, Wood Handbook: Wood as an Engineering Material, prepared by the Forest Products Laboratory, Forest Service USDA, General Technical Report FPL-GTR-113 (31 pages)

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Docket No. 0217.97R  
Serial No. 09/828,634

PATENT

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Appl. No. : 09/828,634  
Applicant : Francis S. Nakayama et al.  
Filed : April 5, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 1711  
Examiner : N. M. Nutter

Docket No. : 0217.97R  
Customer No. : 25278

Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**STATUS INQUIRY**

Sir:

Applicants request information as to the status of this application.

On June 30, 2003, Applicants filed an Amendment and supporting documents in response to the Non-Final Rejection in the above-identified application. Receipt of these documents by the PTO is shown by the enclosed postcard. Copies of the documents filed on 6/30/03 are also enclosed in this facsimile transmission.

The Patent Application Information Retrieval System (P.A.I.R.) indicates that there has been no noted activity in this application since March 31, 2003. Applicants request a status update of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

*Margaret Connor*

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Attorney of Record  
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June 30, 2003

Correspondence Received:

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. 1.115; Nakayama et al., *Abstr. Assoc. Advance. Ind. Crops*, page 35 (1996); Schloman et al., in *Bioresource Technology* 35: 191-196 (1991); Page 10-16  
USDA Forest Service Agricultural Handbook: Wood-based Composites and Panel Products, Wood Handbook: Wood as an Engineering Material, prepared by the Forest Products Laboratory, Forest Service USDA, General Technical Report FPL-GTR-113; Certificate of mailing by Express Mail

PATENT

USDA Docket No. 0217.97R

Serial No. 09/828,634

Inventor(s): Francis S. Nakayama et al.

Title: Composites Comprising Plant Material From *Populus* spp. and Plastic

Date Filed: 04/05/2001

Express Mail No. EU 972807167 US

